



Pre-K 4 SA

An Investment in Education

City of San Antonio

Early Childhood
Education
Initiative

Initiative Overview

- **This proposed initiative will provide four-year-olds high-quality prekindergarten education through:**
 - Four Model Center facilities serving 500 students each with full-day Pre-K instruction
 - Competitive Grant Awards to local independent school districts and other education providers to educate 1,700 children annually
 - Professional Development for Pre-K through Grade 3 educators
- **Proposed program over eight (8) years**
 - July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2021
- **When program is fully implemented, 3,700 four-year-olds will be educated annually through Pre-K 4 SA initiative**
- **22,400 four-year-olds served over eight-year period**
- **City will partner with school districts and other education entities to provide service**
- **Funded by 1/8 cent increase in local (San Antonio) sales tax rate (1/8 cent per \$1.00 of taxable purchase)**

Purpose & Goals

- **To improve quality and quantity of prekindergarten education for four-year-olds citywide**
 - Achievement gaps reduced by at least 25% in language, 33% in math, and 90% in literacy when compared to kindergarten students who do not attend Centers
 - By 3rd grade, students from Centers should close the achievement gap in STAAR reading and math assessments by at least 10%.
 - 20% to 40% Reduction in special education placement and grade retention
- **To provide high-quality professional development for all Pre-K through 3rd grade educators in the City**
- **To help prepare our children for the 21st century job market**

In 2011,

Mayor Julián Castro convened a blue ribbon taskforce of Chief Executive Officers, Superintendents, and education professionals to identify the most effective method for improving the quality of education in San Antonio. The Brainpower Taskforce recommended the development of a program focused on high-quality prekindergarten services for four-year-old children.

Research shows high-quality prekindergarten has the most impact in improving overall education outcomes for a community and helps children to learn and read on grade-level, making them less likely to fall behind their classmates and more likely to graduate and attend college.



Getting to the
Target Population

20,000

four-year-olds in San Antonio

16,500

eligible for State Pre-K funding

10,800

currently enrolled in
full-day Pre-K programs

5,700

are not benefitting
from full-day Pre-K

Figures are projections based on 2010 U.S. Census, American Community Survey, and the Texas Education Agency

Program Eligibility

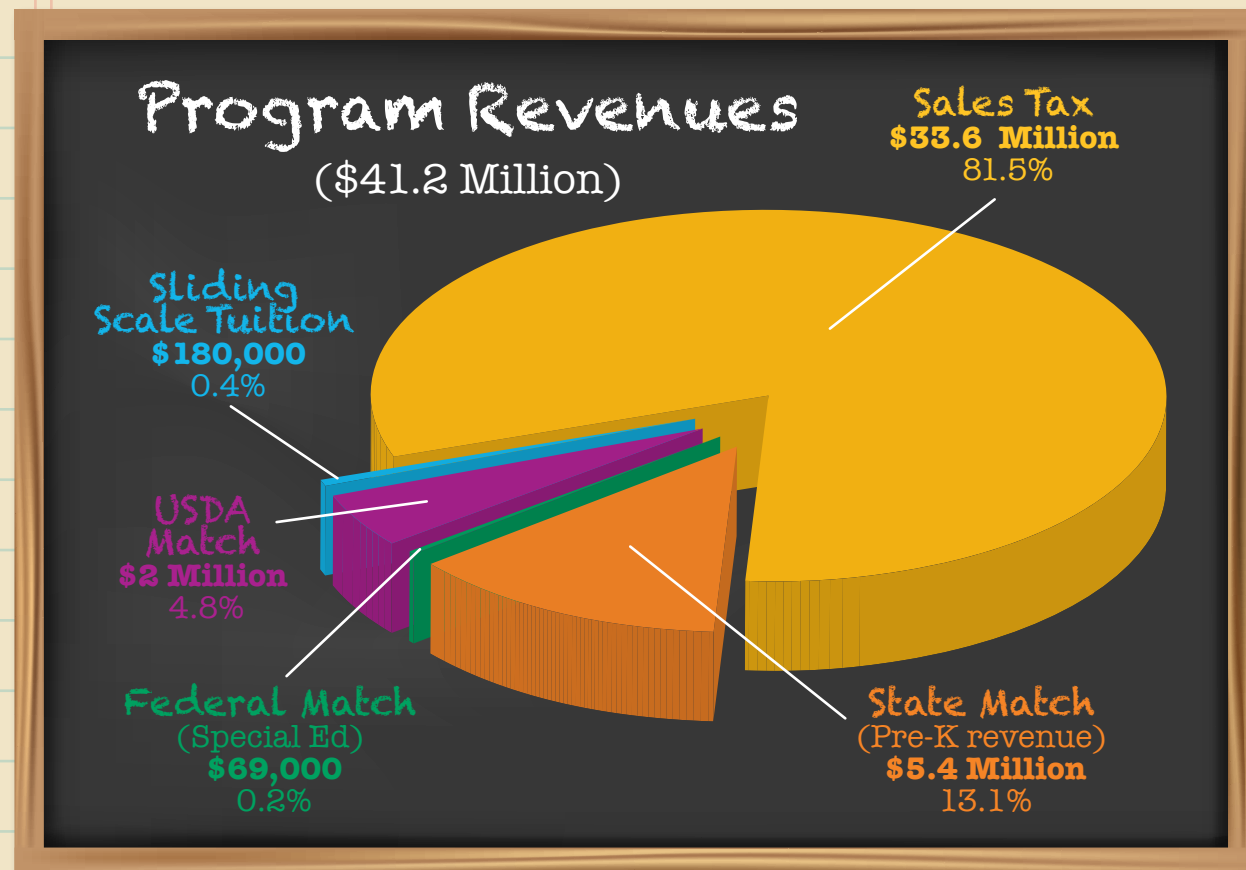
- **Program services are free for qualifying families based on the following State of Texas Pre-K eligibility criteria:**
 - At or below 185% of federal poverty level (families are eligible for free or reduced lunch)
 - English as a second language
 - Child of active duty member of U.S. Armed Forces
 - Child of injured or deceased member of U.S. Armed Forces
 - Homeless
 - Currently or previously in foster care
- **Ten percent (10%) of enrollment in Model Centers available at affordable tuition rates based on family income for families above 185% of federal poverty level**

Parent Engagement

- **Parent engagement fostered through components within the program including:**
- **Parent leadership classes**
- **Parent education classes**
- **Fatherhood initiatives**
- **Parents and teachers sign commitment contract**
 - Parents will be asked to regularly read to their child, help with homework and attend school events, including parent/teacher conferences

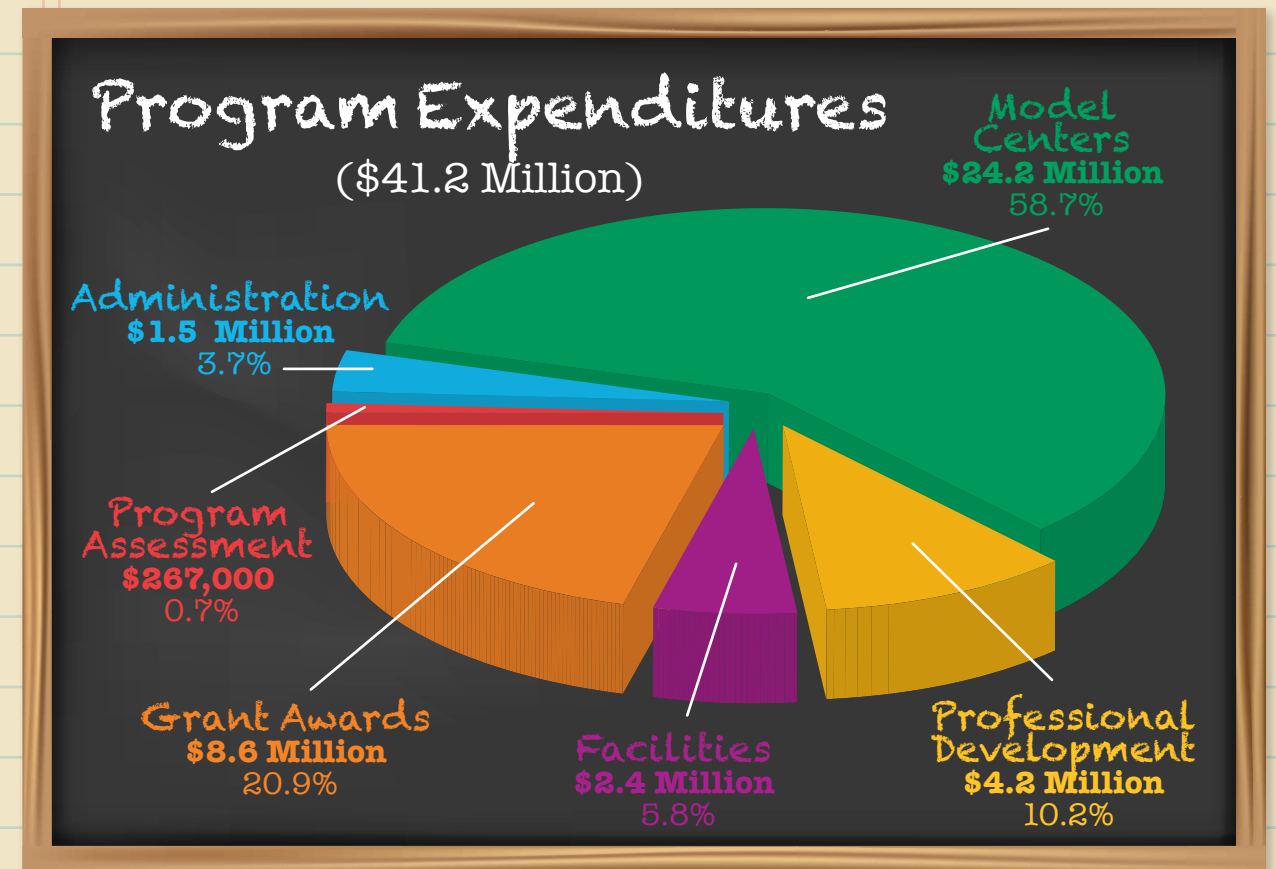
Funding

- **Pre-K 4 SA to be funded using the City's available 1/8-cent sales tax rate**
 - Eight year average of approximately \$31 million in revenue annually
 - Current sales tax rate in San Antonio: 8.125%
 - State maximum allowable sales tax rate: 8.25%
 - San Antonio has 1/8 cent remaining capacity
- **Average sales tax increase of \$7.81 annually to San Antonio households with median income**
- **for every \$1 invested in Pre-K, studies show a \$3 to \$7 return on investment**
- **Funding contingent on Nov. 6, 2012 Special Sales Tax Election**



(Figures shown represent program year 2020)

Budget





(Figures shown represent program year 2020)

- **Program includes a structurally balanced budget**
- **Grant Awards of \$8.6 million and Professional Development of \$4.2 million goes directly to benefit school districts and other educational institutions.**
- **Low administrative expenses**



Service Model

Service	Year 1: 2013 2014	Year 2: 2014 2015	Year 3: 2015 2016	Year 4: 2016 2017	Year 5: 2017 2018	Year 6: 2018 2019	Year 7: 2019 2020	Year 8: 2020 2021
Children served in Initial Two Model Centers 	700	800	900	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Children served in Additional Two Model Centers 		700	800	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Competitive Grants in School Districts & Partner Programs				1,700	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,700
Total Children Served	700	1,500	1,700	3,700	3,700	3,700	3,700	3,700
Children served at Model Centers through Sliding Scale Tuition (10% of Model Centers)	70	150	170	200	200	200	200	200

Three-Year
 Ramp Up

Five-Year Academic
 Assessment at Full Capacity

Model Centers

- **Four Model Center facilities opened in the first two years of the program**
- **2,000 four-year-olds provided full day Pre-K instruction in centers**
- **20 Students per 2 teaching professionals (1 teacher and 1 teacher's aide)**
- **Strategically located in four different quadrants of the City**
 - Near major highways and VIA transportation routes
- **Extended-day care service provided at Centers to help working parents**
- **Family support services included**
- **Enrollment for the Centers will be chosen through objective and unbiased lottery systems administered by participating school districts**
- **Full-day Pre-K doubles the amount of academic learning during a school year compared to half-day Pre-K providing more than 200 hours of additional academic instruction**

Competitive Grants

- **Beginning in Program Year 2016-2017, competitive grants will be available for school districts, charter schools, private/parochial schools, and community providers**
- **Will provide additional full-day and/or enhanced Pre-K services in existing programs**
- **Projected total students served in grant awards: 1,700 per year**

Program Assessment Checks & Balances

- **Program Assessment provides “checks and balances” to the community**
 - Independent Program Evaluation
 - Assessment for Model Center students
 - Annual Bridge Study
 - School districts use assessment tools of choice
 - Third-party analysis creates compatibility in test scores among various scales
- **The initiative will be governed by a City Council appointed 11 member board. City Council will provide fiscal oversight for the initiative to include approval of the program’s annual budget. The initiative includes annual performance audits and assessments to measure success that will be conducted by independent third-party entities.**
- **The initiative will be for an eight-year period and will be subject to voter re-authorization in November 2020.**

Professional Development

- **Consists of four distinct areas available to teachers in school districts, charter schools, private/parochial schools, and community providers**
 - Classroom Training with Master Teachers at the Model Centers
 - Teacher Coach Training in school district classrooms
 - In-Service Training
 - Monthly workshops for informal community childcare providers will be offered at the Centers. The workshops will allow informal providers to work and learn from master teachers and will focus on strategies for literacy and numeracy development.